

The first award presented was the Gold Award from the Property Liability Trust for the  
**EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**  
**March 4, 2008**

County's promptness in reporting claims. Prompt claims reporting in a timely manner tends to minimize the costs of that claim..

The second award was for outstanding safety achievement, presented by Workers Comp Program. This means something really good was done within the EMS by Laureen White and Jewel Plaxco. Two things took place in the modernization of the ambulances to lessen the potential for injuries for the workers with the purchase of power lift stretchers and some internal modifications of the ambulances themselves with netting installed to minimize the chances of employees in the back of the ambulance falling. This award was presented to Laureen and Jewel.

He thanked the county for its long participation in the two programs and for the support of the Risk Management Safety Program. He encouraged continuation of that support which is crucial to minimizing claims which in turn results in the preservation of the assets of the county and, of course, reduction in the insurance premiums overall.

**2-1-1 System**

Mr. Dean Campbell, Chairman of the Edgefield County United Way addressed council concerning a proposed Edgefield County 2-1-1 helpline system. This is a 24-hour-a-day, 7 day-a-week phone number that an Edgefield County resident can dial and get instant answers on where to go locally for help to meet health, housing or other needs. It is a national program of the United Way of America and the Alliance of Information and Referral Systems designed to help citizens quickly find information they need to help them in some way.

Edgefield County could contract through Aiken County at nominal expense. Aiken County has been using this system for five years and reports outstanding success and this system was particularly a great tool during the Graniteville train disaster and now Aiken County Council is helping to fund the 2-1-1 system. Aiken County partners with call centers in Columbia and Charleston, ensuring instant mutual support in the event a disaster would take out the Aiken Center.

Mr. Campbell asked the County Council to fund \$10,000 of the 2-1-1 system cost as a recurring item in the budget. The Edgefield County United Way will fund the remaining portion, including advertising the 2-1-1 Helpline system availability.

Motion was made by Councilman Kneece, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to receive as information to discuss during the budget process. Motion carried unanimously.

**EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
March 4, 2008**

**Additional Beds for County Jail**

The sheriff asked for an additional eight (8) new bunk beds for the jail at a price of \$2,840.80, plus \$875.00 for installation making a total of \$3,715.80. There are no funds available in the jail budget, as the increased number of inmates has already caused a strain on those funds. Motion was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Bright, to purchase the eight new bunk beds at a total of \$3,725.80. Motion carried unanimously.

**Surplus Ambulance / County Line Fire Dept.**

There are two ambulances at the Edgefield EMS Headquarters on Star Road that are termed "surplus." The County Line Fire Department has requested one of the ambulances to be used for first response/back-up to EMS calls and as a service truck to carry fire-fighting equipment/supplies, and as a rehab unit and shelter at incident scenes during inclement weather. Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Hudson to give one of the surplus ambulances to the County Line Fire Department. Motion carried unanimously.

**Town of Edgefield / Scoreboard**

Mr. Thomas Holmes, Vice Chairman of the EC Recreation Commission, was present to request partial funding for a new pony league scoreboard for the Town of Edgefield. The Commission received a letter from the Town of Edgefield requesting financial support of \$1,710. A quote of \$3,620 for a new wireless remote scoreboard was received and the Edgefield Dixie Youth League agreed to give \$200 and the Town would pay half of the balance of \$3,420.00. To repair the eighteen (18) year old present scoreboard would cost \$2,000.00. The Commission members have been polled and they are in agreement to help fund this request. Motion was made by Councilman Kitchens, seconded by Councilman Bright to contribute \$342.00 from each of the five council districts recreation funds for the purchase of a new scoreboard. Motion carried unanimously.

**Bettis Park Name Change**

Chairman Kneece, at this point, asked council for consideration to change the name of *Bettis Park* to *Edgefield County Recreation Park* – that means everybody in Edgefield County, not just one group. Mr. Kneece feels that the funding provided by the county for the park and its availability to all county citizens justifies the name change. Chairman Kneece made the motion to change the name of Bettis Park to Edgefield County Recreation Park. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hudson and the motion carried unanimously.

**All God's Creatures proposed shelter**

There were a number of citizens present, Rev. Michael Key spokesman, in protest of the proposed location of the *All God's Creatures* shelter. He explained that when he

**EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**  
**March 4, 2008**

purchased his property for his home ten years ago it was with the indication that this property was for homestead only. During that time the owner had stipulations on what you could have and what you could not have. A few days ago Rev. Key spoke with the owner and was told that the stipulation for his property which is the covenant does not apply to the property for the proposed location of the shelter.

Rev. Key stated that he has nothing against *God's Creatures* but I do not want the shelter in my backdoor. He stated that he felt sure the county has land somewhere that could accommodate this shelter.

Councilman Dorn asked the administrator what protection would the county's Nuisance Ordinance No. 07-08-592 serve in this issue? The administrator replied to Councilman Dorn that the Ordinance deals with the problem after it occurs, not before a building/business is established.

Mrs. Denise Holcomb, founder of *All God's Creatures*, read a statement of how the shelter would be constructed with a sound barrier more or less. Mrs. Holcomb stated the staff would be willing to meet with the home owners/concerned residents in the area to provide a complete overview of the plans to give them a better understanding and evaluate the goals and methods to accomplish the group's goals.

Mike Casey, our Emergency Preparedness Director, asked Rev. Key if he would have a problem working with the AGC staff in trying to obtain another location for the shelter. Rev. Key said he would be glad to.

**Supplemental Agenda**

Consideration of Resolution No. 07-08-305, "A Resolution Requesting the General Assembly to Approve Additional Funding for the Senior Meals on Wheels Program." Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to approve Resolution No. 07-08305. Motion carried unanimously.

**Board Appointments**

Councilman Bright stated that he would like to make a motion for an appointment to the GLEAMS Board. There is a vacancy for a representative from Edgefield County to be filled. Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to appoint Andrew Pride, Jr., 529 John Fox Road, North Augusta, to fill this vacancy. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to appoint Torrey Johnson, 676 Mt. Zion Road, Trenton, to an at-large vacancy on the Planning Commission Board. Motion carried unanimously.

**EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**  
**March 4, 2008**

**Administrator's Report**

In the recreation area the basketball season is coming to a close. It has been a success. There are some good five and six year old players.

Soccer season begins Monday (Mar. 10<sup>th</sup>). A large number of participants have signed up.

Baseball sign-ups are completed and practices started. There will be a jamboree on Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, kicking off the baseball season.

Bids will be opened tomorrow for the Sweetwater Convenience Center renovations that council approved last month. This is the grant that Tim Fox with Tri-County obtained for the county and hopefully completion will be done by the end of March.

The Planning Commission is starting a complete review of the comprehensive plan that is done every ten years. At the March 13<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission meeting the Board will address population issues of the county and county housing issues.

Chairman Kneece asked to address an issue that Councilman Hudson had brought to council at the last meeting, that being installing a loading ramp at the Sweetwater Convenience Center. The approximate cost would be \$30,000. Mr. Kneece stated that he and the administrator looked at a ramp in Aiken County and were told that it was being demolished because of the liability. There had been some accidents. There will be a hand truck available at all of the convenience centers for the public to use for unloading of heavy items such as appliances that are to be disposed of. If an individual does not want to do that, they can bring the item to the transfer station and they will do the unloading with the bob-cat.

**No guests.**

**Comments from Public**

Mr. John Sellars signed to address council concerning the Northside Park. He asked what would be next phase of the park and the administrator reported that there is an understanding that the picnic shelter/restrooms would be next. The estimated cost is approximately \$40,000 and there is only \$20,000 available at this time. The administrator and Rev. Gordon have been communicating on this. There are also bleachers needed for the field and Ms. Benson with the US Department of Agriculture is working on a grant for the bleachers. Those are the next two proposed items.

**EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
March 4, 2008**

**Claims approved:**

**PAYROLL: 1/28/08 thru 2/10/08**

Regular.....\$219,953.23

**PAYROLL: 2/11/08 thru 2/24/08**

Regular.....\$218,378.75

**General Operating.....\$685,354.39**

**No executive session.**

There being no further business, Councilman Dorn made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Hudson. A unanimous vote to adjourn.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 1, 2008, with a budget work session scheduled for Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. Both will be held at the County Council Chambers, 225 Jeter Street, Edgefield.

\_\_\_\_\_  
C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Norman Dorn, Councilman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joel D. Hudson, Councilman

\_\_\_\_\_  
B. Everette Kitchens, Councilman

ATTEST

\_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council